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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 489  
By Overbey

A RESOLUTION To recognize Galen W. Johnson, Jr. upon being selected as an inductee for the Maryville-Alcoa *Daily Times* Wall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Since 1996, the Maryville-Alcoa *Daily Times* has selected outstanding individuals who have been educated in the four area public school systems from which Academic Letters Awards Winners are honored to be inducted into its Wall of Fame; some past winners have been high-profile figures on the local, regional and national scenes and all have made significant accomplishments within their profession and have provided community and business leadership; and

WHEREAS, At the 16th Annual Academic Letters Awards Banquet at Heritage High School, four new honorees were added to the Wall of Fame; one of those outstanding honorees was Galen W. Johnson, Jr., a long-time teacher, coach and principal at several area schools, including William Blount High School; and

WHEREAS, A 1946 graduate of Everett High School, Galen Johnson earned his bachelor's degree from Maryville College and received a master's degree plus 45 hours

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certification from the University of Tennessee; he began his career teaching and coaching at Richards Elementary and High Schools in Missouri from 1952-55; and

WHEREAS, From 1955-79, Mr. Johnson served astutely as teacher, guidance counselor, assistant football coach, elementary and high school boys and girls basketball coach, and as principal at Porter Elementary and High Schools; he then went on to serve as the organizing principal of William Blount High School and worked as an evaluator of principals and superintendents throughout the state while on loan to the Tennessee Department of Education from 1988-89; and

WHEREAS, Galen Johnson's distinguished career includes four years of service as a volunteer women's coach at Maryville College and initiating the first basketball camps for girls in Tennessee in 1961; he worked with more than 50,000 boys and girls and coached basketball for 48 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson took eighteen teams to the state tournament, and recorded a .813 overall winning percentage for his girls' basketball team and a 76.6 winning percentage for all teams he coached; his teams won 20 or more games per season for 24 consecutive years, a national record; the gymnasium at Porter High School is named for him; and

WHEREAS, Galen Johnson has been honored by induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame, and the Blount County Sports Hall of Fame; he was named District Coach of the Year seven times and has served nine years on the TSSAA Legislative Council; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career as an educator, coach and administrator, Mr. Johnson has enjoyed the love and support of his lovely wife, the former Betty Pierce; the Johnsons are the proud parents of Donna Brewington, Stephanie Thompson, Gaye Hasty and Dawn Reagan, and the grandparents of five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly is pleased to honor those citizens who during their years of work have made outstanding contributions to this State on behalf of all Tennesseans, especially our children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Galen W. Johnson, Jr., for being named an Academic Letters Awards honoree and being inducted into the Maryville-Alcoa *Daily Times* Wall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we thank him for his many years of outstanding and exemplary service as a teacher, coach, and school administrator and for serving as a superlative role model for our youth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to Galen and Betty Johnson our heartiest wishes for every success and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.